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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/511,831	10/19/2004	Hiroshi Saitoh	MTS-3542US	6421
23122	7590	10/07/2008		
RATNERPRESTIA			EXAMINER	
P O BOX 980			CHOWDHURY, NIGAR	
VALLEY FORGE, PA 19482-0980				
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/511,831

Applicant(s)

SAITOH ET AL.

Examiner

NIGAR CHOWDHURY

Art Unit

2621

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 01 August 2008.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6, 8, 9, 11-13, 15, 17-21 and 23 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6, 8, 9, 11-13, 15, 17-21 and 23 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 19 October 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 08/01/2008 has been entered.

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments filed 08/01/2008 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.
2. In re page 7, applicant argues that David fails to disclose newly added limitation "alternately" as recited in independent claims.

In response, the examiner respectfully disagrees. David discloses from paragraph 0204-0205 that "...metadata generation processor therefore operates to co-ordinate these signals and provides the metadata generation processor with metadata such as....a signal received via the control unit ... to indicate that the visual images captured are a "good shot"..... it is possible to generate a "good shot" marker. The "good shot" marker is generated during the recording process, and detected by the

metadata generation processor. The "good shot" marker is then either stored on the tape.....", paragraph 0287-0292 discloses that ".....Each time the camera starts recording... a mew MURN is generated by the MURN generator for recording on the TC user....The MURN generated by the MURN generator is passed, with the video and audio data streams and (if used) good shot markers and the like, to the multiplexer for recording on the tape....." and paragraph 0298 discloses that ".....The third sensor.... could provide an indication of a "good shot marker" which is manually set by the operator of the camera when a good image or shot has been recorded by the camera". David discloses a recording mark which is "good shot marker" is manually set by the operator of the camera when a good image or shot has been recorded by the camera. The recording mark is multiplex with frames where recording is continued in conjunction with the start and the stop of recording. The operator can change the recording mark whenever they want (i.e. alternately for every frame) which changes a value of frame.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States

only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

3. Claims 1-6, 8-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by US 2002/0131764 by David et al.
4. Regarding **claim 1**, an AutoREC signal multiplex apparatus comprising:
 - video signal generation means of generating a video signal (fig. 1, paragraph 0090);
 - video signal recording means of recording generated video signal (fig. 1, paragraph 0090);
 - indication means of indicating a start and/or a stop of recording performed by video signal recording means (fig. 11, paragraph 0116, 0188, 0204, 0205);
 - AutoREC signal generation means of generating an AutoREC signal, which has recording marks to be multiplexed with frames where recording is continued, in conjunction with the start and/or the stop of recording based on respective indications (fig. 30-31, paragraph 0116, 0188, 0204, 0205, 0261, 0287-0293);
 - AutoREC signal multiplex means of multiplexing generated AutoREC signal with generated video signal (fig. 30-31, paragraph 0261, 0287-0293);
 - wherein video signal recording means records a video signal with which generated AutoREC signal has been multiplexed (fig. 30-31, paragraph 0261, 0287-0293).

- recording mark has a value which changes alternately for every frame (0204-0205, 0287-0292, 0298)

5. Regarding **claim 2**, the AutoREC signal multiplex apparatus wherein AutoREC signal multiplex means multiplexes generated AutoREC signal with generated video signal at the timing of indication (fig. 31, paragraph 0287-0293).

6. Regarding **claim 3**, the AutoREC signal multiplex apparatus wherein AutoREC signal is multiplexed with a LTC (Longitudinal Time Code) user's bit or a VITC (Vertical Interval Time Code) user's bit of a frame of video signal (paragraph 0250, 0282, 0292-0293).

7. Regarding **claim 4**, the AutoREC signal multiplex apparatus wherein AutoREC signal has a start mark to be multiplexed with a frame where recording is started, and a stop mark to be multiplexed with a frame where recording is stopped (fig. 31, paragraph 0287-0293).

8. Regarding **claim 5**, the AutoREC signal multiplex apparatus wherein AutoREC signal multiplex means multiplexes start marks with a predetermined number of frames after the frame where recording is started (fig. 31, paragraph 0287-0293, signal multiplexed start marks with a zero number of frames after the frame where recording is started).

9. Regarding **claim 6**, the AutoREC signal multiplex apparatus wherein AutoREC signal multiplex means multiplexes stop marks with a predetermined number of frames before the frame where recording is stopped (fig. 31, paragraph 0287-0293, signal multiplexed stop marks with a zero number of frames before the frame where recording is stopped).

10. **Claim 8** is rejected for the same reason as discussed as corresponding claim 1 above.

11. **Claim 9** (paragraph 0265-0271) is rejected for the same reason as discussed as corresponding claim 1 above.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

12. Claims 11-13, 15, 17-21, 23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US 2002/0131764 by David et al. in view of US 7,260,306 by Murata et al.

13. Regarding **claim 11**, David discloses a video signal division apparatus comprising:

- video signal reproduction means of reproducing a recorded video signal that has been generated, with which an AutoREC signal is multiplexed, AutoREC signal having been generated in conjunction with a start and/or a stop of a performed recording based on respective indications of the start and/or the stop of recording and having recording marks multiplexed with frames where recording is continued (fig. 18, 30-31, paragraph 0212-0215, 0261-0269);
- AutoREC signal detection means of detecting AutoREC signal which is multiplexed with reproduced video signal (fig. 30-31, paragraph 0261, 0287-0293);
- recording mark has a value which changes alternately for every frame (0204-0205, 0287-0292, 0298)

David fails to disclose video signal division means of dividing reproduced video signal based on a result of detection.

Murata discloses video signal division means of dividing video signal based on a result of detection (fig. 10, col. 2 lines 22-col. 3 lines 59).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicant's invention to modify the proposed combination of David's system to include a detector, as taught by Murata, to detect divider, in point or out point of a program for a viewer. Viewer can easily find out which portion of video they want to watch through detector.

14. **Claim 12** is rejected for the same reason as discussed as corresponding claim 4 above.

15. Regarding **claim 13**, Murata discloses the video signal division apparatus wherein video signal division means once divides generated video signal when AutoREC signal detection means continuously detects start marks without detecting stop marks (fig. 10, col. 2 lines 22-col. 3 lines 59).

16. Regarding **claim 15**, Murata discloses the video signal division apparatus wherein video signal division means once divides generated video signal when signal detection means stops detecting recording marks (fig. 10, col. 2 lines 22-col. 3 lines 59).

17. Regarding **claim 17**, Murata discloses the video signal division apparatus wherein video signal division means once divides generated video signal when AutoREC signal detection means continuously detects recording marks having the same value (fig. 10, col. 2 lines 22-col. 3 lines 59). .

18. Regarding **claim 18**, Murata discloses the video signal division apparatus wherein generated AutoREC signal is multiplexed again with divided video signal (fig. 1, 2, col. 6 lines 39-col. 8 lines 37, fig. 10, col. 2 lines 22-col. 3 lines 59).

19. Regarding **claim 19**, Murata discloses the video signal division apparatus wherein a predetermined pre-roll video signal is inserted just before divided video signal (fig. 10, col. 2 lines 22-col. 3 lines 59).

20. **Claim 20** is rejected for the same reason as discussed as corresponding claim 11 above.

21. **Claim 21** (paragraph 0265-0271) is rejected for the same reason as discussed as corresponding claim 11 above.

22. **Claim 23** is rejected for the same reason as discussed as corresponding claim 11 above.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to NIGAR CHOWDHURY whose telephone number is (571)272-8890. The examiner can normally be reached on 9 AM - 5 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Thai Tran can be reached on 571-272-7382. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

NC
09/28/2008

/Thai Tran/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2621